



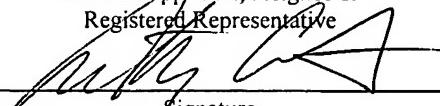
O I P E
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
DEC 27 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS/Amendment Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on December 21, 2004

Date of Deposit

Anthony P. Curtis, Ph.D. Reg. No. 46,193

Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative

Signature

December 21, 2004

Date of Signature

Our Case No. 9281/4665

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
Hiroshi USHIMARU)	
Serial No.: 10/654,171)	Examiner: Garcia, Ernesto
Filing Date: September 3, 2003)	Group Art Unit: 3679
For: FITTING STRUCTURE FOR KNOBS)	
)	

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

MS/Amendment
 Commissioner for Patents
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action of September 21, 2004. The Claims begin on page 2 and the Remarks begin on page 6.



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mailstop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date:
Date: December 21, 2004 Name: Anthony P. Curtis, Ph.D. Signature:

BRINKS
HOFER
GILSON
& LIONE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Hiroshi Ushimaru

Appln. No.: 10/654,171

Examiner: Garcia, Ernesto

Filed: September 3, 2003

Art Unit: 3679

For: FITTING STRUCTURE FOR KNOBS

Attorney Docket No: 9281/4665

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Attached is/are:

- Amendment and Response to Office Action (8p); and
 Return Receipt Postcard

Fee calculation:

- No additional fee is required.
 Small Entity.
 An extension fee in an amount of \$_____ for a _____-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).
 A petition or processing fee in an amount of \$_____ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(_____.)
 An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

	Claims Remaining - After Amendment	Minus	Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Small Entity		Not a Small Entity		
					Rate	Add'l Fee	or	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus			x \$25=		x \$50=		
Indep.		Minus			x 100=		x \$200=		
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$180=		+\$360=		
					Total	\$	Total	\$	

Fee payment:

- A check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed.
 Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 in the amount of \$_____. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.
 Payment by credit card in the amount of \$_____ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony P. Curtis, Ph.D. (Reg. No. 46,193)

December 21, 2004

Date